

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 7 remain in this application.

The Examiner has rejected all of the claims as being obvious over US 1,157,771 to Fulton in view of US 3,698,400 to Tucker, alone, or in further view of several additional US Patents. Applicant disagrees and provides the following arguments to support his position.

Claims 1, 5 and 7 were rejected over Fulton in view of Tucker. The Examiner has failed to find all of the features in sole independent claim 1 in either of the references. Applicant's claim 1 clearly recites "a piezoelectric ignition device extending into the combustion chamber above the mouth piece pipe and below the bowl ..." Please note that the bowl forms the upper portion of the combustion chamber (para. 0025) and that the ignition device is positioned between the bowl and the mouth piece pipe in the lower portion of the combustion chamber..

The ignition device in Fulton is at the bottom of the combustion chamber and the ignition device in Tucker is above the top of the combustion chamber.

Applicant's ignition device is placed in the combustion chamber such that the flame produced is directed to a quantity of combustible above the bottom and below the top of the combustion chamber, not at the bottom or at the top.

Tucker teaches away from applicant's invention by clearly teaching that because the fuel gas is heavier than air it

"will settle down on and over the top of the tobacco material in the bowl ... so that it is not necessary for the smoker to suck the burning gas down against the bowl charge..." (Col. 1, lines 66 to Col. 2, line 5)

Tucker does not suggest that the ignition flame be placed at any position except the very top of the combustion chamber above the tobacco charge.

It is clear then that the combination of Fulton and Tucker does not suggest or render applicant's claim 1 obvious and reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Since each of Applicant's claims 2 through 7 are dependent on applicant's claim 1, the obviousness of these claims can not be argued based on a patentable claim.

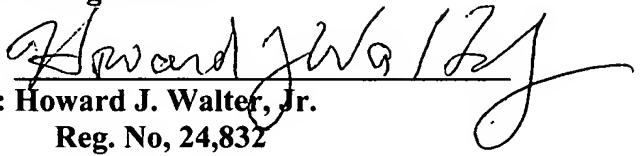
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In view of the above, it is believed that all of the claims are patentable and it is requested that reconsideration of the rejection be made.

Respectfully submitted,

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